

WASHINGTON – Congressman John W. Olver (D-1st District) announced today that the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) has awarded a \$7.4 million grant to the Commonwealth of Massachusetts for the development of a new veterans' cemetery in Winchendon.

This grant will fund the development of approximately 25 acres of land, including 9,200 gravesites for veterans and their families.

"We have a strong obligation to the men and women who served in the armed forces," Olver said. "This grant is a testament to their sacrifice and the commitment of the VA to honor them."

As a member of the House Appropriations Committee, Olver strongly supported the VA's State Cemetery Grants Program, which provides funding for the development and maintenance of state veterans' cemeteries.

A groundbreaking for the new veterans' cemetery in Winchendon will be held in the near future. The ceremony will be attended by local officials, veterans, and their families.

The Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) State Cemetery Grants Program was established in 1974 to provide funding for the development and maintenance of state veterans' cemeteries.

For more information, contact Robert C. McKean, director of Massachusetts Veterans' Memorial Cemetery, at (508) 866-1234.

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